

May 11, 2015

PUBLIC SAFETY/JUSTICE FACILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

A Public Safety/Justice Facility Committee meeting was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court Room, County Administration Building, Third Floor, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas

Committee Members Present: Jones, Adams, Allen, Leadabrand, Anglin, Shadlow, Moehring

Others Present: County Judge Bob Clinard, Assessor Linda Hambrick, JP's Sandlin, Easley, Meyers, K. Harrison, Comptroller Brenda Guenther, Administrator of Public Safety Marshal Watson, Hight-Jackson Associates Director Gary Jackson, Jay Allen - Walton Family Foundation, and Brenda Anderson - Downtown Bentonville, Inc.

Media: Tom Sissom

JP Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments:

None

Continued Discussion of Courthouse Facility Options

JP Jones stated that the charge of this committee is to make a recommendation for the location of the new courts facility to the Quorum Court as a whole. He stated that we have some leeway as to where to send it, and that the general agreement is to send the recommendation to the Committee of the Whole so that all Justices can review.

JP Allen made motion to forward to the June 9, 2015 Committee of the Whole consideration for the new courts facility location to be the downtown location option (G2) for further discussion, seconded by JP Adams.

Lengthy discussion was held on endorsing a plan to keep the county's circuit courts in downtown Bentonville.

JP Allen stated that he made the motion and that the county can modify the plans and make changes in the downtown option as needed and that he made the motion to get the process moving.

JP Leadabrand stated that he believes that building a facility on open ground will be less costly and more efficient over time, than building a courts complex in the downtown area that includes two older buildings. He said that he does not like spending \$20 million or \$30 million on old buildings.

JP Adams stated that he has strong feelings about keeping the county seat downtown. He stated that for historic reasons and economic ones, that he supports the downtown location.

After much further lengthy discussion was held of the downtown location for a new courts facility.

Motion passed by show of hands vote.

In favor:	Adams, Allen, Anglin, Shadlow, Moehring, Jones
Against:	Leadabrand

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm